

**“Fort Carson...the best place in the Army for soldiers to soldier...leaders to lead...families to grow...and people to work...We are a home to the force...a committed neighbor, trained to deploy, trained to fight, trained to win...the 7th Infantry Division and the Mountain Post Team...a dominant combat ready force for the 21st Century.”**

**— *Fort Carson Vision***

Fort Carson’s mission is to train, mobilize, deploy, and sustain the combat-ready, multi-component integrated forces of the 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division and Fort Carson, and to be a responsive and efficient installation as a premier Warfighting Center and an effective power projection platform. This mission includes providing a caring environment for all in a climate of cooperation and partnership with civilian and military neighbors. This Sustainability Baseline Document and Conference will be used to support that mission for years to come, in the face of decreasing budgets, ever-increasing population growth in Colorado, changing technologies, and greater environmental restrictions.

Fort Carson is the home of the 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, and is one of America’s primary power projection platforms—to include the 3<sup>rd</sup> Armored Cavalry Regiment; 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade Combat Team, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division (Mechanized); 1<sup>st</sup> Special Forces Group (Airborne); 43<sup>rd</sup> Area Support Group; 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, 91<sup>st</sup> Division; 4<sup>th</sup> Regional Reserve Officers Training Corps; Medical Department Activity; Dental Activity; and U.S.

Army Garrison. Fort Carson’s mission is to train, mobilize, and deploy combat ready forces to fight and win worldwide. Inherent in this mission is the requirement to care for soldiers, their families and the work force, and to sustain a quality installation. Fort Carson has a strategic and national security mission to support worldwide contingencies and respond to global peacekeeping efforts and disasters with trained and ready soldiers.

Fort Carson must function well as a power projection platform now, 25 years from now, and beyond.

Infrastructure limitations, mission changes, and dwindling funding pose significant challenges for us in the future. We must be able to effectively integrate sustainability principles into all aspects of how we do business in our daily routines. Incorporating sustainability into the mission will guarantee

our ability to  
accomplish that mission for the long term.

At our Installation Sustainability Workshop, which will take place 4-6 September, 2002, we will bring together Fort Carson personnel, Department of the Army and subordinate headquarter representatives, representatives from other local military installations, civic leaders, members of the local and regulatory communities, and the public, to discuss shared resources and plan for their wise use. Workshop participants will set 25-year goals for addressing the sustainability challenges that face Fort Carson and the surrounding community. We will also identify the community stakeholders and individuals from Fort Carson who will lead our efforts to attain the 25-year goals. This Baseline Document will be used to determine the 25-year goals.

It will not be easy to meet the goals. The effort will require commitment and cooperation across all staffs at the Installation. Additionally, to succeed, we will need the vigorous participation and support of our

neighbors; our Army headquarters; and our partners in state and federal agencies, utilities, regulators, tribes, other area installations, non-government organizations, and the public.

Here is my charge to you: examine the challenges set forth in this document; determine how we want to exist in 25 years; set aggressive, attainable and quantifiable goals; and establish and empower teams that engage the appropriate stakeholders to ensure that Fort Carson's history of proud service to the nation and the world continues indefinitely.